

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 00167 170909Z

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 MC-02 L-03 /046 W

-----171012Z 063310 /20

R 170810Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2869

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 0167

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, MASS, BM

SUBJ: PATROL BOATS FOR BURMA NAVY: REQUEST FOR EXPORT LICENSE

1. MR. SEABURY C. MCGOWN, MANAGER COMMERCIAL/MILITARY SALES, UNIFLITE INTERNATIONAL INC., BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON, INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT BURMA NAVY WISHES TO PURCHASE SIX PATROL BOATS FROM HIS FIRM. THE CRAFT IN QUESTION ARE 32 FT. CORSAIRS, A MODEL DERIVED FROM USN 31 FT. PBR MK2. TOTAL VALUE OF SALE INCLUDING SPARES AND LIMITED IN-COUNTRY TRAINING IS ESTIMATED AT \$500,000.

2. MCGOWN SAID GUB OFFICIALS PREPARED TO SIGN CONTRACT PROVIDING 10 PERCENT DOWNPAYMENT IMMEDIATELY. BURMA NAVY MUST COMMIT FUNDS FOR THIS PURCHASE PRIOR TO END OF BURMESE FY MARCH 31 OR FACE DELAY AND UNCERTAINTY WHETHER FUNDS WOULD BE ALLOCATED IN THE NEXT FY BUDGET. HOWEVER, MCGOWN POINTED OUT HIS FIRM MUST HAVE AN EXPORT LICENSE FOR THESE BOATS BEFORE HE CAN SIGN A VALID CONTRACT. IN MID-DECEMBER UNIFLITE WROTE THE OFFICE OF MUNITIONS CONTROL (ATTN: MR. JOHN SANFORD) REGARDING AN ADVISORY OPINION ON THE SALE, AND MCGOWN WILL PRESENT FORMAL REQUEST FOR EXPORT LICENSE WHEN HE IS IN WASHINGTON THE END OF JANUARY.

3. IN VIEW OF THE SHORT TIME REMAINING BEFORE THE END OF THE BURMESE FY, MCGOWN ASKED THE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE
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PAGE 02 RANGOO 00167 170909Z

IN ALERTING THE DEPARTMENT THAT A FORMAL REQUEST FOR AN EXPORT LICENSE IN THIS CASE WILL SOON BE PRESENTED.

4. THE EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED SALE. THE BOATS IN QUESTION WOULD BE PRIMARILY USED FOR RIVER PATROL DUTY AND TO SUPPRESS SMUGGLING AND POACHING IN BURMESE TERRITORIAL WATERS. WE SEE NO WAY IN WHICH THE

CRAFT COULD BE USED TO SUPPRESS PUBLIC DISSENT AGAINST
THE PRESENT REGIME. HENCE, THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS
FAVORABLE ACTION ON THE APPLICATION WHEN IT IS PRESENTED.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN ENSURING
THAT UNIFLITE AND GUB BE ADVISED OF APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL
OF EXPORT PERMIT BY 10 MARCH 1977 BECAUSE MCGOWN IS CORRECT
THAT OTHERWISE BURMESE NAVY WILL LOSE THE AVAILABLE FUNDING
AND UNIFLITE PROBABLY WOULD LOSE THE SALE.

6. ABOVE COORDINATED WITH DAO.
OSBORN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONTRACTS, MILITARY SALES, NAVAL SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770145/aaaabnkn.tel
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Message ID: 41caf2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3580818
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PATROL BOATS FOR BURMA NAVY: REQUEST FOR EXPORT LICENSE
TAGS: ESTC, MASS, BM, US, UNIFLITE INTL INC
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Type: TE
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Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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